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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 17 September 1973

1. (Confidential - GLC) Met with Ed Braswell, Senate Armed Services Committee staff, and left with him a draft statement for possible use by the Chairman on the floor of the Senate if amendments are offered to the Defense Procurement Act which would restrict Agency involvement in domestic activities. Braswell said they might also want an official letter from the Agency stating what we have done in the past and what we will be doing in the future. He mentioned specifically our contacts with police programs and suggested that we include in our letter references to the recent amendment to the Law Enforcement Administration Act. Braswell added that we should have several days notice if such a letter is needed since members usually file their letters in advance. The Procurement Act is now scheduled to come up on the floor Wednesday afternoon or shortly thereafter.

I told Braswell the White House has expressed interest in the possibility of amendments to our legislation and mentioned that Dr. Kissinger would like Bryce Harlow and the Director to meet with Senator Stennis to discuss the matter. Braswell said that Harlow has had a good reputation on the Hill in the past and as far as he knows Senator Stennis is well disposed toward him. Braswell feels it is a little early to have this kind of a session with Stennis, however. Furthermore, he feels that if Harlow and Colby are to see Stennis they should have something specific to talk about. He did not mean by this, however, that the language we were developing should be presented as a "White House or Administration proposal." He feels that Senator Stennis will want the specific language to be a Committee proposal and submitting our language as an Administration draft would be counterproductive. As a final comment, Braswell said that Senator Stennis has a high regard for Dr. Kissinger and he would probably react favorably to any suggestion made by him along these lines.

I showed Braswell a copy of our draft letter to the Congressional Quarterly commenting on the statement made in their "Guide to American Government" with respect to the way General Walters conducted himself vis-a-vis the White House regarding the Watergate matter. I told Braswell we were considering asking Senator Symington to sign a letter to the CQ to set the record straight on this and asked for his thoughts. He said he doubted that Symington would want to get into this kind of a "grunting contest" with CQ, but he saw no reason why we should not at least take the matter up with the Senator.

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